

It's no wonder he forgot it. It seems, Mr. Speaker, that the budget plan submitted by the White House this week would force taxpayers born after 1993 to bear an 84-percent average lifetime tax rate.

If that is not bad enough, the real reason why this figure was not included in the President's budget is because this year, despite administration promises, this tax rate is 2-percent higher than it was last year. The tax rate rises along with the deficit.

No wonder they chose to forget it. Perhaps they were troubled by what one of their own economists said: "Levying such high net taxes on future Americans is not only unconscionable, it's also economically unfeasible."

Mr. Speaker, the President's budget will rob future generations of their hard earned money, not to mention their cradle and all.

#### MOST AMERICANS FAVOR A MINIMUM WAGE INCREASE

(Mr. GUTIERREZ asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GUTIERREZ. Mr. Speaker, we hear daily updates on the Contract With America.

But my colleagues omit the fact that this contract was built by pollsters and consultants. It was designed for easy popularity, not for the American people.

Well, their consultants must have forgotten to ask about minimum wage.

Because when NBC News asked the American people, 78 percent said they favored an increase.

I guess 78 percent of America was not around when our opponents took their poll.

I think I know who they missed.

They missed the 78 percent who carry around something other than the contract in their back pocket.

They missed the 78 percent who instead carry a lunch pail to their work site, who carry their children to day care, who carry a bus token so they can get to work, who carry a Medicare card for their health care.

So the next time our Speaker waves around a piece of paper and a hole puncher, remember that until we honor the hard work of every person in our Nation with a decent, livable minimum wage, all he is waving is an exclusive contract with some of America.

#### CONGRESS SHOULD NOT INTERVENE IN THE BASEBALL STRIKE

(Mr. LAHOOD asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. LAHOOD. Mr. Speaker, the President sent a message to the House last evening asking Congress to pass legislation to establish a 3-person panel to arbitrate the baseball strike.

I say there is no role for Congress in the baseball strike. But I do have a

suggestion. How about we get the millionaire owners and the millionaire players to sit around a table and talk to one another so the average person can go see a baseball game?

This is ridiculous for Congress to be involved when we have all of these high-paid people who are supposed to be pretty smart and they can sit down and solve this thing. Congress should not be involved. I do not agree with the President on this.

Have them sit down at a table and solve it all so that all of the average folks out there can watch baseball this spring and this summer.

#### INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION TO REDIRECT FOREIGN AID TO AMERICANS

(Mr. TRAFICANT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, Congress borrows money from Japan and Germany and then Congress pays interest on that borrowed money to Japan and Germany. Then Congress takes that borrowed money and gives it back to Japan and Germany to protect them.

Now we give money, our borrowed money to Germany to protect them from an invasion from Russia. But then we give money to Russia so that Russia does not have to invade Germany.

If any of this makes sense, beam me up. The only good thing about it, evidently, is that the Russians could not overwhelm the Capitol Police.

But the bottom line is we borrow money to help everybody all over the world, but we cannot come up with money to help our own people. I have a little bill, H.R. 782. It would take \$5 billion of foreign aid and transfer it to revenue sharing for cities and counties.

I think Members should take a look at that, Democrats at least.

#### CURING THE CRIME EPIDEMIC

(Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, if there were a disease in this country that affected Americans of all races, ages, and sexes, a disease of epidemic proportions that touched the lives of each American citizen every single day, an epidemic that took over America's streets and literally held our citizens hostage in their homes—if there were a disease such as this in our country, wouldn't this Congress do everything in its power to find a cure?

Mr. Speaker, there is such a disease in this America today—the epidemic of crime—and the American people are crying out for a cure. Republicans are working hard to find a cure. Our crime bill answers the citizens' pleas by forcing criminals to pay and pay dearly for their crimes. It's time that the crimi-

nal element in this country takes responsibility and blame for spreading the disease of crime. It's time to stop punishing the victim and start punishing the criminal.

Mr. Speaker, this crime bill is the best cure for the epidemic of crime in America. I urge my colleagues in this Congress to give the American people a cure that is tough and effective. Give them a real crime bill.

□ 1010

#### THE NAFTA ANNIVERSARY

(Ms. KAPTUR asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, incredible as it may seem, certain promoters still claim NAFTA to be a success.

Eighteen thousand United States workers have already lost their jobs to Mexico with thousands more surely to be lost as more plants relocate to that cheap wage environment.

Our trade advantage with Mexico wiped out last year, and red ink is ahead of us as far as we can see.

A 50-percent peso devaluation in Mexico will dry up our consumer market for exports down there, and the \$47 billion taxpayer backed bailout of Mexico and its Wall Street friends.

Tuesday's New York Times tells the story of Tracy Bartrom of Indiana. A former maintenance worker for Magnatek in Huntington, IN, she recalled a meeting she had in Mexico as she trained her replacement worker. Through a translator, she asked how much he was paid. He told her \$1 an hour. And for him, the job is certainly not desirable as strong fumes cause nausea and vomiting.

The true story of NAFTA needs to be told, but it will never get the coverage that the O.J. Simpson trial gets on U.S. television.

#### COMMON SENSE AND YOUR TAX DOLLARS

(Mr. KNOLLENBERG asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. KNOLLENBERG. Mr. Speaker, last week Congressman KOLBE and I introduced the Common Sense Welfare Reform Act.

The American people are frustrated with dependency-fostering federal welfare programs. They realize that the War on Poverty has failed and are demanding real welfare reform.

Our bill turns the reins of welfare reform over to the people who pay the Federal Government's bills—the American taxpayers. We would allow each American to direct up to ten percent of their Federal taxes to charities engaged in fighting poverty instead of sending that money to Washington.